



## DISEASE EPIDEMIC/ UNINTENTIONAL BIOLOGICAL HAZARD



A Disease Epidemic/Unintentional Biological Hazard is the natural or inadvertent spread of potentially harmful viruses, bacteria, parasites, or other biological disease-causing agents. Disease Epidemic/Unintentional Biological Hazards can result from the natural spread of infectious disease or from the accidental release of biological agents from health care facilities, research institutions, and industrial operations.

### HAS IT HAPPENED LOCALLY?

There has been one emergency-level Disease Epidemic/Unintentional Biological Hazard event in Howard County during the reviewed time period (1994-2016), the H1N1 outbreak in 2009. During that outbreak, 40,001 Howard County residents received the H1N1 vaccination at drive-through vaccination points, flu clinics, schools, and community centers. In late 2014, Howard County engaged in a public messaging effort to promote understanding of the Ebola virus threat. A similar effort was undertaken in 2016 for the global Zika epidemic.

### WHAT IS THE ONGOING RISK?

There is an expected **1-30% Annual Likelihood** of a Disease Epidemic/Unintentional Biological Hazard in Howard County. In the most likely Disease Epidemic/Unintentional Biological Hazard scenario, the **Total Impact is considered Significant-Critical**. In the worst-case scenario, the **Total Impact is considered Critical-Catastrophic**.

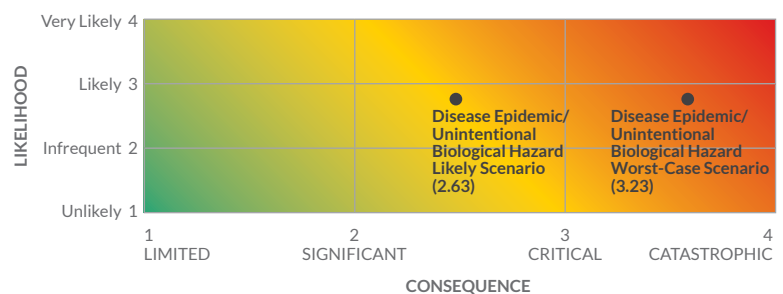
### DID YOU KNOW?

- Howard County has 12 Points of Distribution (PODS) for vaccines during a disease epidemic.
- Howard County does not have any hospitals with biocontainment units.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- Howard County Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment [readyhoco.com/hazards](http://readyhoco.com/hazards)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [emergency.cdc.gov/recentincidents/?s\\_cid=cdc\\_homepage\\_topmenu\\_004](http://emergency.cdc.gov/recentincidents/?s_cid=cdc_homepage_topmenu_004)
- Ready.gov, [ready.gov/pandemic](http://ready.gov/pandemic)

### RISK MATRIX



### LOCAL RISK OVERVIEW

Future Likelihood	Frequent-Likely 1-30% chance of annual occurrence	
Impact	MOST-LIKELY	WORST-CASE
	Significant-Critical	Critical-Catastrophic
Risk Score	2.63	3.23
Risk Ranking (High to Low)	Ranked #7 of 16 man-made hazards.	

### DISEASE EPIDEMIC/UNINTENTIONAL BIOLOGICAL HAZARD IMPACT

Where no Worst-Case bar is visible, Worst-Case impact is equivalent to Likely Impact

